

courage. We must not forget or fail to honor those who have served their country so faithfully.

Our Nation deeply appreciates the acute suffering and pain experienced by the families of our servicemen held captive or missing in action. The loss of a loved one is a tragic situation under any circumstance, but that burden is magnified when the fate of the loved one is unknown. All Americans fully support efforts to end the uncertainties with which they continue to live.

We accept and remember our obligation to these missing servicemen. Until the P.O.W./M.I.A. issue is resolved, it will remain a matter of the highest national priority. On July 20, 1984, the P.O.W./M.I.A. Flag will fly over the White House, the Departments of State and Defense, and the Veterans' Administration as a symbol of our unswerving commitment to achieve the full-est possible accounting for the servicemen and civilians.

Ante, p. 146.

By Senate Joint Resolution 171, the Congress has designated July 20, 1984, as "National P.O.W./M.I.A. Recognition Day." On this day, I firmly believe that we should recognize the special debt all Americans owe to our fellow citizens who gave up their freedom in the service of our country and to the families who have undergone a great travail.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Friday, July 20, 1984, as National P.O.W./M.I.A. Recognition Day. I call on all Americans to join in honoring all former American prisoners of war, those still missing, and their families who endured the uncommon sacrifices on behalf of this country. I also call upon State and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th. day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5193 of May 11, 1984

National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Week, 1984

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Asthma and allergic diseases annually result in physical, emotional, and economic hardship for more than thirty-five million Americans and their families. Even though sufficient medical knowledge and resources exist to prevent many asthma-related deaths, thousands of Americans die each year from asthma. Indeed, student absenteeism is due in significant part to asthma and allergic diseases. Furthermore, in some instances, medical patients suffer unfortunate allergic reactions to prescribed medicines.

It is estimated that the American people pay \$2 billion per year in medical bills directly attributable to the treatment and diagnosis of asthma and allergic diseases and another \$2 billion per year as a result of the indirect social costs of such illnesses.

Recent developments in the study of immunology enable health care providers to diagnose and treat asthma and allergic diseases more effectively. In-

creased public awareness of these scientific advances in immunology will help dispel many of the common misconceptions concerning these diseases and their victims. With the determination and support of our citizens, scientists hope that continuing progress will eventually lead to the control and prevention of these life-limiting and sometimes life-threatening diseases.

In recognition of the significant importance of increased public awareness of recent advancements in the study of immunology to the health and well-being of millions of American children and adults, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 244, has designated the week beginning on May 6, 1984, as "National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Week," and authorized and requested the President to issue an appropriate proclamation.

Ante, p. 178.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 6, 1984 as National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5194 of May 15, 1984

Missing Children Day, 1984

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Each year hundreds of thousands of American families face the stark terror of a unique tragedy—that of a missing child. Our children are our most precious resource—they are the bond that binds our past with the future. It is for them that we struggle to build a better world. They are the embodiment of our hopes and dreams. To have a child simply disappear strikes an incalculable blow against the spirit and soul of any family so afflicted.

In our efforts to address the nightmare of missing children, 1984 marks the year of a significant step forward. The Department of Justice has awarded a \$3.3 million grant to establish a National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Its purpose is to aid parents and law enforcement agencies in locating missing youngsters and preventing the exploitation of children. By collecting and disseminating information regarding missing young people, the Center will lend major support to those searching for their children.

As a Nation committed to the worth of every individual, there can be no more imperative goal for our society than the protection and safety of our young people. It is hoped that these new efforts combined with the increasing awareness of the seriousness of this problem will encourage greater vigilance by the agencies that work to solve this singular type of crime.

As a Nation and as individuals, we all have a responsibility to direct our resources and our efforts to this worthy goal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 25, 1984, as Missing Children Day. I